

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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DRAFTED BY OES/APT/SEP:WFDECLERCQ:DBU
APPROVED BY OES/APT:OHGANLEY
OES/APT/SEP:RGMORRIS (DRAFT)
EUR/CE:JWARD

-----140219Z 056639 /63

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, TGEN, GE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GDR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICIAL

REF: BERLIN 6199 AND 5707

1. KONRAD GROTE, ACCOMPANIED BY SCIENTIFIC ATTACHE LANGE, HAD SEPARATE APPOINTMENTS AT DEPARTMENT WITH DR. ROBERT G. MORRIS, DIRECTOR OF OES/APT/SEP, AND WITH DR. OSWALD GANLEY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY, OES. ESSENTIALLY SAME GROUND WAS COVERED AT BOTH MEETINGS. DESK OFFICER JOHN WARD WAS PRESENT AT FIRST MEETING AND ALTHOUGH HE EXTENDED INVITATION SEVERAL TIMES FOR GROTE TO VISIT EUR/CE LATER DURING HIS STAY, GROTE CLAIMED THE PRESS OF OTHER BUSINESS PREVENTED HIM FROM RETURNING TO THE DEPARTMENT.

2. GROTE'S PRESENTATION WAS RELATIVELY LOW-KEY, BUT NEVER-
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THELESS HOPEFUL THAT RELATIONS IN S&T AT THE GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL WOULD EXPAND SOON. HE NOTED THAT HIS VISIT WAS EXPLORATORY, TO DETERMINE THE "ATTITUDE" OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TOWARD THE GDR AND TO ASCERTAIN WHAT THE INTEREST OF BOTH SIDES ARE. HE STATED THAT THE GDR WAS EXPLORING SEVERAL AREAS OF COOPERATION WITH INDUSTRY, AND HOPED TO

INCREASE THE "EXCHANGE" OF LICENSING. SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE CONVERSATIONS, HE REFERRED TO THE US' PARTICIPATION AT THE LEIPZIG FAIR, NOTING HOW MUCH THE GDR VALUED THIS PARTICIPATION AND THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. IN HIS STRONGEST PITCH, HE STATED THAT THE GDR BELIEVES THAT WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IS A "FIRM BASIS", I.E. GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS, TO ENCOURAGE ACTIVITIES OF THIS KIND.

3. MORRIS AND GANLEY BOTH MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT, WHILE THEY SHARED THE WISH FOR INCREASED RELATIONS, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO CONTEMPLATE AN AGREEMENT IN S&T AT THIS TIME. NORMALIZATION IS A SLOW AND DIFFICULT PROCESS. OTHER MATTERS, SUCH AS A CONSULAR AGREEMENT, MUST BE TAKEN CARE OF FIRST. IF AND WHEN THE TIME COMES TO CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT, S&T WOULD HAVE TO BE PART OF AN UMBRELLA AGREEMENT WHICH ALSO COVERS CULTURAL EXCHANGES. HOWEVER, INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM AN UMBRELLA AGREEMENT. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, THERE IS NO REASON WHY WE CAN'T PROCEED WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT BY SENDING SCIENTISTS IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.

4. AT ONE POINT, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON WHAT THE GDR'S AREAS OF INTEREST ARE, GROTE POINTED TO: (A) ENERGY R&D -- THE RATIONAL AND ECONOMIC USE OF DEPLETABLE RESOURCE, (B) CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, PARTICULARLY PETRO-CHEMICALS, AND (C) THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY, PARTICULARLY MICROELECTRONICS AND PREPARATION OF BASIC MATERIALS.

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5. WE DO NOT KNOW WHOM GROTE VISITED IN BOSTON AND CHICAGO, BUT PRESUMABLY THEY ARE PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE US-GDR COMMITTEE. VANCE

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